

**NFMS MIDYEAR MEETING AGENDA**  
**Saturday, April 26th, 2025 – 1:00 pm**  
**Benton County Fairgrounds: Kennewick, Washington**

Parliamentarian-Evan Day

**ORDER OF BUSINESS. . .**

Call to Order-Lora Hall, President

Pledge of Allegiance – Lora Hall, President

Introduction of Officers & Chairs-Lora Hall, President

Introduction of Past Presidents and VIPs-Michael Rhodes, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Introduction of Attendees – Directors/Delegates-Gary Warren, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Invocation-Evan Day

Moment of Silence for Those Lost-Lora Hall, President (See last page for list)

Committee Reports – Acknowledgement, additional information – Committee Chairpersons

***Old Business***

***New Business***

Presentation of By-Law Proposal and changes-Judi Allison, for Darrell Coyle

Adjustment of Fiscal Year

Plea for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Treasurer candidates

Additional Business

Adjournment

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

President-Lora Hall

Executive Secretary-Judi Allison

Treasurer-Judi Allison, pro tem

Budget /1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-Michael Rhodes

Bulletin Aids-Pricilla Hall-Ford

Credentials-Clara & Del Walker

Custodian-2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Gary Warren

Directory-Janel Lacey

All American Club Award/Education -Open

Endowment Fund-Vicki Johnson/Jim Brain

Field Trip-Doug True

Historian-Robert Dalton

Juniors-Jennifer Fitch

Newsletter Editor-Jessica Himple

Nominating-Jennifer Haley

Northwest Rockhound Retreat-Walt Butler

Rules & Awards-Joshua Hulstrom

Past Presidents Council-Larry Hulstrom

Public Lands Advisory-Susie Koppert

Public Relations-Open

Resolutions-Audrey Vogelpohl

Rockhound of the Year-Laurie Ellis

Safety-Kathy Larson

Scholarship-Mary Lou Northrup

Show Coordination-Faith Farley

Slide/Video- Ronna Watkins

Stamps-Aaron Currier/Ed Anderson

Supplies-Open

Ways & Means-Open

Webmaster-Brad Larson

Website Competition-Open

ALAA-Jennifer Haley

**AFMS COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

AFMS President Elect-Ronna Watkins

AFMS Junior Program Chair-Lora Hall

Endowment Fund-Judi Allison

Program Competition-DeLane Cox

Scholarship Foundation-Mary Lou Northrup

***Minutes of the Meeting:***

***President, Lora Hall*** called the meeting to order with *The Pledge of Allegiance*. Having no three-dimensional flag, she shared one on the computer. Following the pledge, she introduced the ***Executive Board***: *Herself; Michael Rhodes, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Judi Allison, Secretary/Treasurer pro tem, and online attendees; Gary Warren, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Evan Day, Parliamentarian; and Darrell Coyle, Bylaws Revision committee.*

*Past Presidents attending were **Darrell Coyle, Larry Hulstrom, Ronna Watkins and Judi Allison**. Ronna will be taking on her position of AFMS President the first of November.*

*Michael then took over to have the **balance of the membership present** introduce themselves: Mike McConnell and his wife Janie from Northern Idaho, James Finckbone from Northern Idaho, Kathy Larson from Lakeside; Jerry and Mary Lou Northrup from Hells Canyon; Anna McKinney from Marysville, (also a member of the Everett Club); June Dorning Yakima; Clara and Del Walker Prineville, Josh Hulstrom from Lakeside; Vicki and Emmett Johnson from Southern Washington; Jim Brain, Club at Large, Dennis English, Marcus Whitman; Janel Lacey, Marcus Whitman. (Twenty-five attendees from 13 clubs.)*

***Evan Day** then offered an **invocation** for the meeting to be productive and for all to be safe in their activities and travels.*

*Lora Hall called for a **moment of silence** to honor those we have lost during the last year. (The list is at the end of the reports.)*

*The next order of business was to go over the **reports**. **Lora** stated she had nothing to add to the **President's report** she provided.*

*(If a committee is not mentioned in this listing, either there was no report, or the Chairperson was letting the report stand as written.)*

***Judi** added that the **Treasurer report** did not reflect the mileage reimbursement for this meeting, the cost of the Directories (\$240) the cost of printing (\$140) and rental of the room. (\$420)*

***Michael** commented that when the bylaws revision is voted on and hopefully passed, he will need adjust the **budget** to reflect the additional 4 months in this fiscal year.*

***Janel** showed off the **Directories**. Sadly, a mistake was found with the numbering as the first three pages had been omitted. After some discussion (and a later final decision by the executive board) it was decided that Judi will email them to the clubs through the newsletter and director contacts. Janel went on to explain the process to get the directory done and to the membership for this meeting. She stated she was disappointed. The membership let her know she did a great job, and it was okay. We will work it out and move forward.*

***Jim Brain** spoke about the **Endowment Fund** stating that we made a minimal gain. In April the daily fluctuations were in the 10,000s up and down. At the time of the meeting we were within \$2 of what we had September 1<sup>st</sup>.*

*Lora mentioned that we had word that our **Historian**, Robert Dalton, was moving. Ronna has agreed to house the historic materials. We just need a plan and a time to get them to her. It will need to be done sometime later in May or in June. We will pay for a trailer, or whatever is needed and can provide some reimbursement to a couple of helpers. (I am working on this, but if you have some suggestions, please let me know-Judi)*

*Lora spoke for our **Junior Chairperson, Jennifer Fitch**. How can we make it easier for our Juniors to apply for the Junior Achievement Award? The committee is in the process of revamping the requirements. A short discussion followed. Anna McKinney stated that this was a thing from the past. Lora stated there is some disconnect if a club is not registered with the AFMS badge program. The AFMS badge program and Junior committee is now more active. Janel stated that the directory shows their club has 20 Juniors, but only 3-4 show up at Junior meetings. Judi stated that the AFMS is introducing a new Sand Badge. Ronna commented that the Juniors were very active at the Hermiston Show last year. James Finckbone about how to reach the website - [www.juniors.amfed.org](http://www.juniors.amfed.org). Lora said the NFMS Chair is working on a contest for the kids to create a Northwest Federation patch. Keep your eyes and ears open.*

*Speaking for the **Nominating Committee**, Lora stated **we need a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and a Treasurer**. She assured folks that, even though one might feel they are getting into something they can't handle, it really is a pretty simple and rewarding thing to go through the chairs. Please bring it up to your club members.*

***Josh Hulstrom** stated that they did not have any entries for the **competitive displays** yet. You can find the forms on the website now. (And they will be coming out in the newsletter.)*

***Larry Hulstrom** stated we need a **bid for the 2026 Show**. Anna McKinney said she would ask the Marysville Club. Judi pointed out there is a new, simpler "How to put on a Federation Show" Guide on the website. She also offered to come to a club meeting and speak to the membership. James Finckbone asked if a show of only 8 dealers was too small, as he thought that was what Marcus Whitman was going to have. At the moment they have 15 inside dealers. This is one of the points discussed in the new guidelines. The Federation wants to work with the clubs to help create a good show with the least number of issues and disruptions. Please consider*

hosting a show. There is a bit more work, but with the proper planning, you can increase your profits-and meet some new rockhound enthusiasts. We need bids for years beyond 2026, so you might consider that.

Judi Allison reminded folks to choose their **Rockhound of the Year** and pass the information on so those unsung adults and juniors can be honored.

**Kathy Larson** introduced herself as the new **Safety Chairperson**. Look for some articles and tips from her in the coming newsletters.

Lora gave kudos to **Mary Lou and Jerry Northrup** for their awesome job of choosing Scholarship awardees through the **AFMS Scholarship program**.

**Ronna Watkins** passed out her report for inclusion in this packet. She stated the **Slide-Video Library** will not be asking for any additional funds beyond what was already allocated. You can read the report for details. Some folks had stamps to turn in. After a short discussion about what stamps were most desirable, it was suggested that the **Stamp Chairmen** write an article for the newsletter to clarify the best stamps for resale and those that need not be sent at all. Judi will contact them with the request.

Judi spoke a bit about the **Website Contest** and the fact that the rules have been rewritten with new criteria.

One of the questions was whether the site was ADA compliant. One can google an app to check their website.

**Ronna** gave a report about the **AFMS Show and Convention in Hickory, North Carolina** March 26-30. She also mentioned the new Sand Badge for Juniors. The conventions are a rewarding time spent with like-minded people from all over the country. The AFMS Show next year will be in St Charles, Illinois May23-26, hosted by the Midwest Federation.

Ronna gave Judi the prize she had won at the AFMS Show in California last year from the AFMS Scholarship fund. This is the fund that provides scholarships for two graduate students in the field of science. Each of 6 Federations chooses two students. That was what Mary Lou and Jerry were doing as the Honorees for the Scholarship fund. Judi explained the process of buying tickets or donating an item as a prize. Prizes are to have a value of at least \$75. The gift was a pair of stemmed glasses made from onyx and lapis.

**Bylaws Revisory Committee: Darrell Coyle and Jim Brain**

Judi pointed out to those present that Darrell and Jim had put a great deal of time and effort into correcting and updating the Bylaws. The changes will be voted on at the Annual meeting, and with approval go into effect. One of the key changes is adjusting the fiscal year to align with the calendar year. This will make more sense for Camp Hancock and the timing of the Federation Shows. It will also simplify reporting to the IRS. Darrell thanked Jim for all his knowledge and help. He pointed out that changes were made to make it easier to read with more modern language. He also stated that Larry Hulstrom has offered to read it for format and details of print so that it will be presented in the best light possible. Jim commented that he couldn't believe how many ways the word "bylaws" was written. Now it is consistent. Their work also standardized the definition of the term "Junior". Please take time to review all their work so you will be an informed voter at the annual meeting. Michael Rhodes commented that a motion to amend the bylaws is a binding statement. Darrell will get with Evan to be certain the wording is correct in the proposal being brought forward. Evan stated a committee can divide the question. It doesn't have to be presented in one lump sum. James Finckbone asked about the budget because of the additional 4 months. Michael explained that the plan is to close out the year the end of August and create a new section from September 1 through December 31. Evan pointed out it is simply an adjustment. Lora asked if there was any more business (as she was hungry and wanted one of those sausage dogs.) Anna McKinney announced that the Washington State Mineral Council needs officers. They may lose their standings through the state if the positions are not filled.

**Janel Lacey** invited all to the **NFMS Show "Petrified in the West: Exploring Ancient Woods" in Walla Walla** September 6-7, with meetings taking place on the 5<sup>th</sup>. They have fifteen dealers inside and have spots available outside. The advance packets included information on wineries, restaurants, shopping and events as well as chocolate rocks. Janel informed the membership that The Marcus Whitman Club is a tenant of their clubhouse and there are people who live there, so when going to meetings or the luncheon Please drive sloooww (5mph) Lora reminded folks to be vigilant about scammers. She recently got a text that included a spreadsheet with officers names and a dollar amount. The request was, "We just need your social security number."

Clara moved the meeting be adjourned. With a couple of seconds from others, Lora deemed the meeting closed. She was off to get her sausage dog.

## **REPORTS FOLLOW:**

### **President– Lora Hall**

The NFMS has navigated a few big changes this past year. After 3 years of debate, the decision was finally made to switch to an electronic newsletter. The cost of printing and mailing a hard copy newsletter was continuing to climb. The switch allowed us to increase the number of issues per year and no longer limited the editor to a set number of pages. Like many changes, it was not without opposition and some hard feeling by those that felt the hard copy newsletter was a valuable benefit of membership. With several issues under our belt, we have most of the distribution kinks worked out.

The decision was also made to drop personal names and contact information from our annual directory. One reason was to decrease printing cost, and the other was to protect the privacy of individual members including our juniors. Our directory now lists key officers for each club or society. Information that could be more readily accessed through the website was also removed to avoid duplication.

Our new Treasurer, Faith Farley, has stepped down for health reasons. We wish her all the best and a quick resolution. Please keep Faith in your thoughts and prayers.

Treasurer is a key position that Judi Allsion and Larry Hulstrom have been filling since the passing of Andrew Lacey. We desperately need a volunteer to step up for this position. We have spoken with our parliamentarian about including a possible volunteer stipend to help offset any expense and he felt this was feasible.

The NFMS has also begun the process of updating our bylaws and operating procedures. One of the key points we intend to change is our fiscal year. We have struggled for years with our fiscal year starting on September 1, which often leaves events like our Annual Meeting and Show and the NW Rockhound Retreat at Camp Hancock splitting a fiscal year. It also makes it difficult to track investment accounts and file taxes. Changing our fiscal year to match the IRS fiscal year starting on January 1 will eliminate many of these problems.

### **Secretary – Judi Allison**

I have always tried to be available to all our members to help with questions or any other thing I could assist with. Now I would love to have you help me. I know all our clubs are doing great things, large and small. And I know all our clubs have those special “doers”. I would love to pass on to our newsletter features of something your club or a member has done so we can all share in the wonderful things each club does. I know the question is often asked, “What does the Federation do for us?” My first answer is “to give strength in numbers, accountability in our hobby and opportunities for our members.” I believe highlighting your club and for a member or two gives that very opportunity. So, I am challenging each club to send me something about your club so we can all celebrate each other. It doesn’t need to be long or done by a board member. I bet each club has someone who can jot off something about their activities My email is [nfmssec@gmail.com](mailto:nfmssec@gmail.com) I’ll be waiting to hear from you!

### **NFMS Treasurer, Judi Allison, Pro Tem**

Well, as you see, I am still here-pro tem. Our volunteer, Faith, was unexpectedly hit with some medical needs so she had to remove herself from the position. (Happily, she is continuing as Show Coordinator Chair.)

After a year of fumbling along, I am starting to understand and appreciate the position more. I am still not a numbers person-give me words, please. I do think I have kept the books straight, though. Our finances are looking better without the cost of the newsletter. (And, hopefully, you will agree with me that our new editor, Jessica, is putting out a stellar paper.) Our Junior funds are in good shape with two CDs totaling about \$20,000. They also have working capital in savings at about \$5800. The juniors received a very generous donation of a little over \$4000 from the Oregon Coast Agate Club when they folded last year. Our stamp guys, Ed and Aaron have also added to their monies with their stamp sales.

Of course, like anything the cost of doing business continues to increase. As you read in Walt’s Rockhound Retreat report, charges for Camp Hancock continue to go up. Mileage for our Executive Board to official meetings continues to rise, and as Jim said, the market is uncertain at this time. Even with those line items, the Federation has available funds for projects and such-but such things only happen with involvement. So, I ask you again, become involved in your Federation. I bet you’ll be glad you did!

On another short note. We have 54 clubs renewing membership. Cascade dropped and Puget Sound Faceters didn’t renew, although all their members are members of Federation clubs. Darlington is inactive, and I could never get a response from Central Montana. With the 54 clubs, we have 6002 adults and 1009 juniors compared to last year: 55 clubs; 6040 adults and 868 Juniors. (Great to see the Juniors numbers increasing!)

### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President –Michael Rhodes**

I am currently reviewing past budgets and preparing the upcoming year budget. With the potential upcoming change in the Federation year this may require a 16 month budget, or at least a 4 month amendment to the current year budget.

### **2nd Vice President-Gary Warren**

As we get closer to the end of our year, I will be asking that the committees that have custodial duties send me what they have or in charge of and also if they could also include a photo of what they have. My email is rockhunter1946@gmail. If you could get this back to me it would really be appreciated. Thanks

### **Bulletin Aids –Priscilla Hall-Ford Credentials – Clara & Del Walker**

We are prepared to do our job. Please send us the names of your Director and Delegate so it will make that job a little easier. You can always let us know who will be representing your Club when you see us at mid-year.

### **Directory – Janel Lacey**

This directory has taken some time in the making as the NFMS Board has changed the format to be more concise and cost effective. Delays included: reaching agreement on the new format, hand entry of the entire new directory by Judi Allison and myself, and delayed response of clubs providing their most current information. By time of publication, one club had still not responded. Since there were a number of concerns expressed in the past regarding privacy of personal contact information, the current Directory now only lists club-provided contact information for officers and chairpersons. If you need information to contact a member of another club, you will need to get it from the identified club contact or, if not identified, then through the club board members listed. I hope you all find this tool more user friendly and easy to navigate. I am eager to receive constructive feedback on it so I can improve upon it further in 2026. Happy Hunting!!

Janel Lacey, Directory Chair

### **Education/All American Club Award – OPEN**

### **Endowment Fund – Vicki Johnson, Chair: Jim Brain, Financial Advisor**

#### **NFMS ENDOMWNT FUND FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2024-25 MID-YEAR MEETING**

To: Endowment Fund Committee Members and NFMS Executive Board

Subject: Mid-year meeting NFMS Endowment Fund Financial Report

Like all investors, our Endowment Fund has taken a significant hit due to the stock market response to some of the policies put in place by the new administration since they took office in early January.

We currently have assets on deposit with Charles Schwab Investment totaling **\$299,773.22** which reflects a reduction of **\$5,496.45** from the balance at the end of our second quarter (2/28/2025). **This reduction has been totally a response to market decline as we have had no expenditure from the endowment fund this business year.** It should be noted, however, that the fund still has had a modest gain of **\$3,869.23** since the start of our business year on 9/1/2024.

Our funds are split between the Operating Account (**\$22,435.69**) and the Managed Investment Account (**\$277,337.53**). The Operating Account balance has remained stable while the Managed Investment Account has shown a 2% decline in just the past month.

As a general course of operation the Managed Investment Account is comprised of funds invested in the stock market to produce growth and dividend income for the endowment fund. We periodically sell assets from the Investment Account and deposit the proceeds into the Operating Account to cover the expected funding obligations of the fund. The current Operating Account balance is adequate to cover expected expenditure for the remainder of the business year.

#### **Managed Investment Account activity and projection into the future.**

No funds have been withdrawn from the Investment Account this year. The reduction shown is due to stock market decline.

As mentioned in previous reports the investment strategy of our fund managers continues to be a relatively conservative approach to protect equity as best they can while at the same time maintaining an income flow from dividends and interest. The investments continue to be positioned to weather *normal* market fluctuations as best as possible. The current pressure on the market is *not normal* and we are experiencing the impacts. The general thought by economists and investment managers is that conditions will continue to fluctuate and there is a probability that we will head into a moderate recession before things turn around. With that being said, I expect an increase in shuffling throughout the year of holdings within our portfolio as the investment managers seek equities paying higher dividends and which have value stability.

**Current Operating Account activity year to date. (9/1/2024-3/31/2025)**

So far this business year, the Endowment Fund Committee has not transferred any funds from the operating account to the NFMS treasurer to cover obligations. We have received only one cash donation, and the account has earned \$20.57 in interest. We should be fine the rest of the year.

**What is on the horizon for the remainder of the 2024-2025 NFMS operating year:**

We will continue to feel the effects of inflation and the fiscal policies of the new administration. Most noticeable is the increased daily volatility of the stock market as experienced after the recent presidential executive order dealing with tariffs. It is not unusual for the value of our invested portfolio to vary by \$1,500 up or down in a single day though the general trend has been down. With that said I think we probably will not see any growth in our investment portfolio in the near future and probably lose the modest gain we currently have had to date. We need to be conservative in our spending of Endowment Fund monies until things stabilize and we have a better view of the future.

**Endowment Fund Spending Authorization for the 2024-2025 year.**

In my second quarter report I said we had a total authorized expenditure of \$14,856 available to spend in the current year. (\$10,383 calculated for the current year and \$4,473 unspent funds carried over from the previous year). Considering the market situation and the potential for a recession, I am now suggesting that we limit our spending this current year to the calculated spending authorization of \$10,383 and retain the carryover authorization in the operating account. I think this will help us retain a total Endowment Fund Balance of around \$300,000 which is our long term goal.

**Other information**

There has been a limited response to the committee's request made in the October Newsletter for potential projects to fund with our available monies. We received only a couple of suggestions with no details about who would do it and how much it would cost. This still concerns me as the committee would like the projects selected for funding to come from the federation membership, not the committee's thoughts. The Endowment Fund Committee written report summarizes the status of those suggestions. (See end of reports for listed suggestions.) If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Jim Brain Endowment Fund Financial Advisor 509-863-9883

**Endowment Fund Committee Report**

**Vicki Johnson, Chairperson**

The NFMS Endowment Fund committee has been trying to identify potential projects to be funded using endowment fund monies. We asked member societies for their input through an article in the October federation newsletter but received a limited response. Jim Brain reached out to several of the standing committees that had previously shared some ideas and identified ten potential projects that have been considered for funding. There are still a lot of details to work out on each. We need to decide soon on which proposals, if any, should be funded this year so funds can be obligated and spent this budget year.

As you can see from the financial report submitted by our financial advisor, Jim Brain, there has been a negative impact on our Endowment Fund balance recently caused by the current political situation. Jim has suggested that we use constraint in how we spend monies from this fund until things stabilize a little.

Finally, the committee is looking for a person to take over as the committee treasurer position and another to work with our financial advisor as he would like to also step down in another year or so.

(See the end of this agenda for a collection of the suggestions for Endowment Fund Project proposals.)

**Field Trip – Doug True –  
Historian – Robert Dalton**

## **Juniors – Jennifer Fitch**

Having received the Junior Achievement Award applications, I am gathering the necessary copies and will be sending them to the judges by the middle of May. We had three total applicants this year. Please encourage your eligible youth to enter the Junior Achievement Award. This is a special way to honor the kiddos for their efforts, and also helps them to develop skills they will utilize later in life.

I had no response to the contest that was put out in the newsletter last July/August, so I am currently looking into ways to get the youth interested in such things. Wanting to try one more time with more networking and personal outreach.

I am hoping to develop an NFMS Junior's Membership Patch! I am looking into the costs and possibly a contest for the kids to come up with a design. I think that a membership patch would help the kiddos feel like they are special (because...well, they ARE!). This would help them to be identifiable as an NFMS Junior when they attend any AFMS events. It would also be a nice addition for those NFMS juniors who participate in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America badge program.

I am happy to report that the kiddos that participate in the FRA badge program have been able to be honored in the newsletters for their hard work and dedication! Remember to continue to send me names and which badges they have earned so that I may include them in the newsletters! All I need is first name and first letter of last name and which badges they have earned, along with which club they are a member.

**Newsletter Editor –Jessica Himple**

## **Nominating – Jennifer Haley**

Calling all clubs! It's a new year and that means the federation needs you to help find a person for the NFMS 2<sup>nd</sup> VP position before the annual meeting in Walla Walla this September. If you are an individual interested in being 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, that's fine too, just let us know. If we receive more than one nomination between now and up to 60 days before Walla Walla, we can keep a list of names for the following year.

How different is being a federation's 2<sup>nd</sup> VP from a club's president or 1<sup>st</sup> VP? As you know, there is always a first time for everything, and I've always enjoyed learning the ropes about how to be a wonderful officer. Your term as 2<sup>nd</sup> VP is a quieter experience as you begin learning more about the inner workings of your federation, and learn from the experience of your fellow officers. A club meeting and a NFMS Mid-Year and Annual meeting are very similar. What goes on behind the scenes as a NFMS officer is similar to a club's executive board meeting. At the NFMS level there isn't constant work happening every week or month of the year, it just depends on what the current projects or issues are. Most of the communication is done through emails, and occasionally a Zoom meeting if the officers wish to do one, or a phone call.

Being a NFMS officer is a great way to get to know the NFMS clubs better, and I always have loved that aspect too. One way you can do that is by visiting the clubs or going to their shows as time or travel permits. You can also give the club president a phone call with a friendly hello, to touch base and let them know you are thinking of them, and to see if there's anything the federation can do better, and what the federation is doing great on. Club have great ideas and it's fun to know what they are doing.

Nominations for all elected officers of the NFMS must be in good standing of a recognized NFMS Club, and must be a permanent resident within the boundaries of the NFMS.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> VP is a position for one year, and is a three-year commitment as you go up the ladder to 1<sup>st</sup> VP and President. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP is also NFMS Custodian Chairman which is an easy job, because all you need to do is check in with each of the NFMS officers and chairman to see if there have been any changes in the inventory in their keeping and make note of it. Following being NFMS President, you become NFMS Nominating Committee chairman for one year, as I am this year.

It's very rewarding being a NFMS officer, and I can tell you that from my experience being on these boards over the years in two different federations. I am so grateful for all I learned working with the great people at the officer and chairmen level, with help from people all along the way. Please do seriously think about becoming the NFMS' 2<sup>nd</sup> VP. Please send resumes of nomination to me. You can also call me. We have a wonderful future to look forward to together, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

**Northwest Rockhound Retreat – Walt Butler**

In 2024 we had a successful camp with an average attendance of 44 campers. We had several campers cancel at the last minute so we had fewer than the maximum allowed. The weather cooperated it was not as hot as previous years and there was no smoke from any wildfires.

As of March 30<sup>th</sup> 2025 we have 41 individuals registered for the 2025 NW Rockhound Retreat with more coming in the mail daily. That's 10 more than last year at this time. We have many new campers registering this year.

Last year OMSI increased the rental fees. After reviewing the effect on the 2024 actuals I had to increase the registration amount this year.

### **Past Presidents' Council – Larry Hulstrom**

As of March, 2025 there have been no proposals submitted by a club to host the 2026 show and convention.

Please read the article written by Judi Allison in the March newsletter (pg 11) and consider submitting a proposal. It is not difficult to add it on to your existing annual show. The NFMS Executive Officers can work with you to make it happen.

### **Public Lands Advisory – Susie Koppert**

Susie continues to work hard attending meetings and keeping abreast of developments relative to land accessibility. Her latest endeavor was to get the word out about the extension of the comment period for the Proposed mine project in the McDermitt area and the possible impact it might have on access to historical collecting sites.

### **Resolutions – Audrey Vogelpohl**

### **Rockhound of the Year – Laurie Ellis**

Send your submissions to nfmsroy at gmail.com

### **Rules & Awards – Joshua Hulstrom, Chair & Larry Hulstrom, Registrar**

Reviews were performed on drafts of competitive and non-competitive display applications for the upcoming NFMS show in Walla Walla, WA. An updated competitive application form should appear in the April newsletter. There have been no competitive applications received as of this date. Information about the show and the applications are found in the March newsletter.

We are still looking for volunteers for this committee. It is a 3 year commitment to rotate through the three positions. Get in touch with us or look us up in Walla Walla. The duties are described in the NFMS operating procedures.

### **Safety – Kathy Larson**

I'm Kathryn Larson and I just started my new position of Safety Chair. I've never held a position like this before so I thought I would find it a little challenging to come up with safety topics. Then I thought about how we do everyday things and how those relate to safety. Also, I read our past issues and learned a few new things. Like the many valuable uses for duct tape. I'm looking forward to future articles and what I may come up with. Thank you for this opportunity.

### **Scholarship – Mary Lou Northrup**

Hello fellow rockhounds. We have had two donations to the AFMS scholarship this spring: a \$200 donation from the Clackamette Mineral and Gem Corp. and a \$75.00 memorial donation for Ralph Eichner from Lakeside Gem & Mineral Inc. Thank you so much for these donations. Jerry and I feel very privileged to be named honorees for the Northwest Federation this year. By working with Lora Hall and Professor Tom Williams at the University of Idaho we have selected two students to receive \$4000.00 scholarships this year. The students are Frank Wrolblewski and Victoria Wagner both studying at the U of I. Congratulations Frank and Victoria.

### **Show Coordination – Faith Farley**

### **Slide/Video – Ronna Watkins**

Greetings from Tieton “Home of the NFMS Library”. The NFMS Library has had two requests since my last report. Although there has not been a lot of use of the materials since the virus and as our clubs recover, I am still working toward my late husband’s passion to save the materials by bringing them up to modern media formats. At the direction of President Jennifer Haley, I met with John Martin of the California Federation when I went to Ventura, CA for the American Federation Annual Meeting. He has already digitalized many slide presentations and sent me a list of all the slide presentations he is in possession of and which ones he has digitalized. I will be acquiring what I can from him. Other slide presentations will be converted at 55 cents a slide in Yakima, saving the cost of postage while also avoiding the risk of loss in the mail. Funding for part of this project has already been allocated through the Endowment Fund and no other funds are needed at this time. I will be digitalizing the audio tapes and adding scripts to power point presentations as I am able. Discussion of other options, through emails recently, have been determined to not be viable.

There was also discussion about forming a committee to help complete this project. Please let me know if you are interested.

New additions to our collection donated by Jennifer Haley include a 3-part study of Geology from The Great Courses by The Teaching Company titled “The Nature of Earth: An Introduction to Geology” that includes three DVDs and a paperback text, and “Zzyzx Rd: with Huell Howser” an off-ramp adventure.

### **Stamps – Aaron Currier and Ed Anderson**

All is well with the stamp committee. We have had to revise our plan to liquidate donated stamps, but it's progressing never-the-less. Our next opportunity will be next month. We hope to raise more money for the junior scholarship program. Our total so far is around \$1200!

### **Supplies – Open**

### **Ways & Means – Open**

### **Webmaster – Brad Larson**

I am updating web pages as per the program chairpersons within the NFMS.

### **For Website Contest:**

Just started to take it over to help the AFMS Website Committee Chairperson, until someone can permanently take it over, I have updated the Website Contest page to reflect this temporary change.

### **Website Competition – Open (See Webmaster Report)**

### **American Lands Access Association ALAA - Jennifer Haley, President 2024**

### **American Lands Access Report-2025 by Jennifer Haley, ALAA President**

It’s a new year with a new government administration to work with. I do feel we will have an easier time working with land issue concerns for recreational rockhounding under the new Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Doug Burgum. As you know, ALAA has always advocated rock and mineral clubs being proactive when it comes to working together to help keep our collecting areas open. With that same thought in mind, one of the projects I am looking forward to working on this year, is getting Secretary Burgum familiar with the historical significance of Recreational Rockhounding in America, and its value as a continuing recreational activity now and in America’s future. I do anticipate and expect we will have a much better ear with Burgum and his staff. That said, we all need to pitch in to keep our eyes and ears open to what’s happening in and around our collecting areas.

I feel that it may be easier now than before, to be able to create a National Recreational Rockhound Day. Rockhounds are truly an All American Recreation. We have an amazing history and our reputation precedes us with our adherence and devotion to the AFMS Code of Ethics.

To date we have confirmation from BLM that recreational rockhounding is still allowed at the Hauser Geode Beds-CA, which is located within the Chuckwalla National Monument. Having our long-standing MOU with the BLM, co-created years ago in co-ordination with ALAA, CFMS and the BLM, certainly has had recreational rockhounding’s back.

President Trump issued a statement he was rescinding the Chuckwalla National Monument in Southern California, and the Sattitla Highlands National Monument in Northern California in March, however within 24 hours the White House deleted that statement and we aren't sure why or what that means at this time.

We know the new administration has plans to unlock what they refer to as America's full potential in natural energy resources and economic development on federal lands. With that understanding, we all need to be alert to how those plans may possibly impact our collecting areas.

ALAA has added an interactive BLM map of the United States to the front page of our website under, Active Access Issues. This is a wonderful map, you just click on the state and the active BLM notices and rules will come up. As you will notice when you use the link, the BLM states it is encouraging citizens to make their voices heard on the issues that are important to them regarding public lands. Recreational rockhounding is an important aspect of this so please give a hoot and get involved if you haven't already, and stay involved. Working together with these government offices does make a difference when it comes to our hobby.

Spring is here for some of us in the country, and just around the corner for the rest of us. With the good weather, please work on scheduling clean-ups in co-ordination with the field offices near your field trips.

Many AFMS federations and clubs have decided to change from a hardcopy newsletter to an electronic version only. It makes sense due to the high cost these days for printing and especially postage. ALAA has decided to do the same. In doing so, our newsletter will be able to be viewed in full color, and we can add on more pages as we find more interesting articles for you concerning rockhounding in America, and current status of collecting site information. You will also be able to forward to the newsletter to your membership easier than passing around one hardcopy newsletter.

Here at ALAA, we haven't been hearing of any public land collecting issues or projects rockhounds are working on, except for California and Oregon. We do want to hear from the rest of you, so please stay in touch. When we do hear about proposed changes in legislature on public lands, we do send out announcements about it asking if the issue will affect rockhounding in your area, however rarely do we hear back whether it will impact your collecting or not. I know we all love our hobby dearly and the thrill of going out to find rocks, so I would love to know more of you are helping to keep a watchful eye on things on behalf of everyone.

ALAA is looking for two good souls to volunteer as Membership Chairman and Newsletter Editor. We send out 4 newsletters per year. In between the newsletters we sometimes need to keep everyone up to date on news that needs your attention and can't wait for the next newsletter to go out, but ALAA can continue to handle that separately from the Editor's job.

Thank you for your continued support & Happy Rockhounding!

**Ad Hoc Committee- Review of NFMS Bylaws and OPs Jim Brain  
Co-Chairs: Darrell Coyle and Jim Brain**

**Following is the Proposal to be brought forward for a vote at the Annual Meeting. A great deal of work has gone into this effort to bring our Bylaws and OPs up to date, grammatically correct and consistent throughout. We thank Darrell and Jim for all their hours of dedication to this project.**

**From: Bylaws Revisory Committee**

**Jim Brain NFMS Club at Large**

**Darrell Coyle Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society**

**From: Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society (revised 26 April 2025)**

**To: Northwest Federation of Mineral Societies**

**Reference: Northwest Federation of Mineral Society's Bylaws**

In accordance with Article XIV Amendments. Section 1. All Amendments to these Bylaws and all resolutions must be sponsored by a member Society in good standing. Regarding amendments to the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Society Bylaws, the Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society has agreed to support the Revisions of the current Bylaws written by the Bylaws Revisory Committee appointed by NFMS President Jennifer

Hailey. We hereby request that this be approved by the Executive Board and be placed on the Agenda for both the 2025 Mid-Year and Annual Meetings.

A summary of the Amendments:

- Correction of numerous clerical errors Including capitalizations, punctuation, etc. These clerical errors are not enumerated. There is no requirement for an amendment to correct them.
- Various changes were made to correct the format and numbering.
- Some language that belonged in Government were moved from Meetings.
- Many sentences were simplified by removing duplicate and unnecessary wording without changing the intent or purpose.
- The word By-Laws be replaced throughout with the word Bylaws.
- Article I. Original text is deleted due to duplication from the Articles of Incorporation
- In reference to Article IV Fiscal Year. It was discussed with a majority agreement at the 2024 Annual Meeting in Hermiston Oregon, May 2024 that the fiscal year should be changed to align with IRS and banking years that begin and end with the calendar year. The requested change is as follows:
  - Remove September 1<sup>st</sup> through 31 August replace with “January 1 through December 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year”.” And concerning closing and auditing of Books, remove August 31<sup>st</sup> and replace with December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- This Fiscal Year change necessitates another change of the Bylaws as follows: In Article VII, Part E. Election of Officers, Section 4. Replace Labor Day with January 1<sup>st</sup> .
- Article VII Government: Part C. Added in order to clearly define this entity of the Government of the NFMS. Part D. Added in order to define the Assembly of Directors. Part E. Section 1. Add Utah.
- Article VIII Meetings This section has been rewritten to clarify the Meetings, which entities attend, vote, quorums. Much of this was extracted from the existing Bylaws with some additions to make this section more understandable and align with how the business of the NFMS is (has been) conducted.
- Article IX, Duties of Officers, Section 4. ALL FEDERATION OFFICERS:
- Remove the words “the fall” from “and the fall Organizational Meeting, (this meeting no longer is held exclusively in the fall)
- Article X Section 2. a. the Circulation Committee is deleted as it is no longer necessary. Section 2 b. A portion of this section is to be moved to the Ops.
- Article XV named Historical Information. Part C was added to.

*Signed: Darrell Coyle, Federation Director, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society*

**Following is a separate section relative to the Junior section of the Bylaws. Changes in this section create a seamless correlation between AFMS and NFMS guidelines.**

*Proposed Changes to Bylaws regarding Juniors and Juniors Societies.*

#### **Article V**

##### **Membership**

Section 2. Membership on the Federation shall be open to all organized amateur mineral, geological and gem societies in the Northwest Federation boundaries. **including duly organized Junior Societies.**

Section 3. **Junior Societies shall be composed entirely of persons eighteen (18) years of age or less: These Societies shall be admitted to full membership.**

Adult members are 18 years of age or older. Members who have not reached their eighteenth birthday are Junior Members. Those Junior Members of a Member Society shall constitute the Juniors Club of that Society.

Member Societies shall have Adult Members as Officers.

#### **Article VI**

## Dues

Section 1. **Annual** Dues of the adult members ~~societies (delete)~~ shall be on the basis of three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) per member of the Member Society and the dues of the Junior members ~~societies (delete)~~ shall be on the basis of one dollar (\$1.00) per member of the Member Society.

Section 2. New ~~adult (delete)~~ societies joining the Federation shall pay three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) per ~~adult (add)~~ member per calendar year and ~~new junior societies joining the Federation (delete)~~ shall pay one dollar per ~~junior (add)~~ member per calendar year, or fraction thereof.....

## Article VII

### Government

Part A. Qualification of Officers, Directors, Delegates and Appointees.

Section 1. All Officers, Directors, Delegates and Appointees shall be adult members of a Member Society in good standing. ~~Except that no Junior Member may hold an Executive Office (delete)~~

## Article VIII

### Part H. Junior Club Meetings

All Junior Club meetings, outings and field trips must have an Adult Member present. It is strongly recommended that two unrelated adults are present. All Junior Members that require direct supervision or care must be accompanied by an adult.

*Following is the balance of the corrected version of the Bylaws that are referenced in the above proposal from the Bylaws revisory committee.*

# NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES BYLAWS

~~DELETE. With changes in the Standing Rules as Recorded by the General Assembly during the 1980 Business Meeting of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., Boise, Idaho.~~

## ARTICLE 1

**DELETE THE ENTIRE TEXT OF THE SECTION AS IT DUPLICATES WHAT IS IN THE FIRST PART OF THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.**

### ~~Name and Registered Office~~

~~Section 1. The Name of this Organization shall be: Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. **ADDED hereafter referred to as the Federation in these bylaws.**~~

~~Section 2. The principal place of business of this corporation and its Post Office address shall be **UPDATED WITH 5409 W 26<sup>th</sup> Ave., Kennewick, Washington, 99338. ADDED Larry Holstrom is the Federation's Designated Agent relative to business dealings with the State of Washington.**~~

## REPLACE WITH

### Basic Information

**Section 1. The Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, hereafter referred to as the Federation, was incorporated in the State of Washington on April 10, 1950. As a Washington corporation the Federation must have a business address and Representative Agent residing in the State of Washington.**

**Section 2. This document will serve as the current bylaws of the federation and includes changes in the general text as were approved at the Convention of Delegates at**

## ARTICLE II

### General Purposes

- Section 1. To bring about closer association of the earth science societies.
- Section 2. To hold, through Member Societies, conventions with suitable programs and exhibits for the benefit of the members and the general public. Programs shall be planned that are directed to educational purposes in the form of guest speakers, seminars, demonstrations, etc.
- Section 3. To cooperate with the various State Departments of Mines and Mining, in order to promote knowledge of the mineral resources of the different states.
- Section 4. To assemble, for exhibition purposes, suitable collections to show at exhibitions.
- Section 5. To assist in the preservation of all mineral collecting areas. To become actively involved in locating and obtaining new mineral collecting sites for the use of member clubs. To aid in creating a favorable public image this Federation has pledged itself to the practice of better outdoor manners by adopting the AFMS Code of Ethics.  
**REPLACE ORIGINAL TEXT WITH Any use of the AFMS Code of Ethics by the NFMS will include the NFMS insignia.** The NFMS, Inc., officially supports the multiple use of our natural resources in a manner that will preserve and protect our public lands for their best use. **DELETE** (~~As amended June 22, 1990~~)
- Section 6. To cooperate with similar Federations.
- Section 7. This Federation is to function on a non-political, amateur basis.
- Section 8. This Federation shall be nonprofit in its operation, and its activities shall be directed exclusively to cultural, educational and scientific purposes, the net income of this Federation shall not insure in whole or in part to any individual or individuals nor shall any distribution of income or assets of the Federation shall be given to other organizations created for the like or similar purposes.

## ARTICLE III

### Affiliations

- Section 1. This Federation is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (**AFMS**)
- a) The President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President will serve as representatives to, and become Directors of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. If the President or 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President are unable to attend the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies meeting, it shall be the duty of the Executive Board to appoint an alternate voting delegate for that annual **AFMS** meeting.
  - b) The Northwest Federation shall annually pay dues, as levied, to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., for dues for each member in good standing in the Northwest Federation.
  - c) Delegates to the American Federation conventions will be allowed a mileage rate in the amount no greater than the then current round trip economy air fare by the most direct route, or if direct air service is not available, then by current I.R. S. mileage, by the most direct usually traveled route.
  - d) Selection of the NFMS Representative **CHANGED on TO to** the AFMS Executive Board. The NFMS Executive Secretary shall supervise selection of the NFMS

Representative to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) Executive Board in the following manner.

- 1) Eligibility: The current NFMS President and all Past Presidents in good standing in a Member Society shall be eligible as candidates for this office.
- 2) Nominations. The Secretary, in the year an NFMS Representative is required to be selected to the AFMS Executive Board, shall determine by mail the willingness of each potential candidate to serve.
- 3) Election: The Secretary shall prepare and mail a written ballot to each eligible member, from part (a), above. A majority vote is necessary for election. If a vote is not reached on the first ballot, a second ballot with the names of the candidates receiving the two (2) highest number of votes shall be prepared and mailed to each eligible member again. The name of the winning candidate shall be submitted by mail to AFMS Nominating Committee.
- 4) Replacements: In the event that it becomes necessary for any reason, including out of the Northwest Federation, to replace the representative prior to the end of the required AFMS term, replacement shall be made by the same procedure.

Section 5. This Federation may affiliate with other similar organizations upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates at any Annual Meeting, PROVIDED that written notice be given each member Society at least four (4) months in advance.

## ARTICLE IV

### Fiscal Year

Section 1. **CHANGED TEXT TO READ: Effective January 2026 the fiscal year for the Federation shall be from January 1st thru December 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year. The books shall be closed and audited as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.** An interim financial report shall be prepared for the Annual Meeting.

## ARTICLE V

### Membership

- Section 1. Membership in this Federation shall be open to qualified Societies in the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Montana, Idaho, that portion of Utah which lies north of 41 degrees North Latitude, and such Canadian Societies in the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan as desire to affiliate.  
The Northwest Federation will not solicit clubs outside those boundaries. Should a club outside these boundaries apply for membership in the Northwest Federation, the Secretary of the AFMS and the secretary of the Federation within whose boundaries that club is located will be advised at least sixty (60) days before that club is considered for acceptance by the Northwest Federation.
- Section 2. Membership in the Federation shall be open to all organized amateur mineral, geological and gem societies in the Northwest, including duly organized Junior Societies.
- Section 3. Junior Societies shall be composed entirely of persons eighteen (18) years of age or less: These Societies shall be admitted to full membership.
- Section 4. An amateur Society is one which is interested in lapidary, art metalcraft, jewelry, paleontology, geology, archeology or the study and collecting of minerals solely for the pleasure and the educational, social and physical benefits that it derives therefrom.

- Section 5. Amateur societies desiring admission to the Federation shall apply, in writing, to the Executive Secretary, giving the name of its president and of its secretary, the number of members and the purposes and objectives of the society.
- Section 6. Upon a Society's request for membership in the Northwest Federation, the Executive Officers of the Federation only, shall vote on that Society's tentative admission into the Federation. And upon payment of dues, these Societies shall have the same privileges as other member Societies until the next Convention of Delegates at which time they shall be voted on and accepted or rejected.
- Section 7. Any Member Society desiring to withdraw from the Federation, shall make such intention known by written notice to the Executive Secretary, which notice shall be signed by the Officers and Director of the Society. Notice of such withdrawal shall then be sent by the Executive Secretary to each member society in the Federation.
- Section 8. Should the attitude or conduct of any Member Society at any time be considered extremely detrimental to the welfare of the Federation, such Member Society may be suspended by a majority vote of the Assembly of Directors at a special meeting called by the President, such suspension to be effective until action is taken by the Delegates at following Annual Meeting. A suspended Member Society may be reinstated or expelled by majority vote by ballot at any Annual Meeting PROVIDED that written notice has been given to the Secretary of the suspended Society, so that its representatives may appear to show cause for reinstatement.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Dues**

- Section 1. Dues of the adult member societies shall be on the basis of three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) per member of the Member Society and the dues of the Junior Member Societies shall be on the basis of one dollar (\$1.00) per member of the Society. Such dues shall be due and payable to the Treasurer on the first day of each calendar year and shall be based upon the membership roster of the Society as of December 31, of the year just closed.
- Section 2. New adult societies joining the Federation shall pay three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) per member per calendar year, and new junior societies joining the Federation shall pay one dollar per member per calendar year, or fraction thereof, with the exception that societies joining the Federation between the close of the annual meeting and the calendar year shall be extended the courtesy of having dues paid during this period be considered as payment in full for the entire following calendar year.
- Section 3. Should any Member Society fail to remit its dues for the current year by February 15, such Society shall not be considered in good standing and may not be listed in the Federation directory for that year. Any Member Society failing to pay its dues by June 1<sup>st</sup> shall be dropped from the roll.
- Section 4. Should such Society desire readmission, it shall apply for membership in the usual manner.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Government**

#### **Part A. Qualification of Officers, Directors, Delegates and Appointees.**

- Section 1. All Officers, Directors, Delegates and Appointees shall be members of a Member Society in good standing, except that no Junior Member may hold an Executive Office.

#### **Part B. Officers**

- Section 1. The Officers of the Federation shall consist of the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer.
- Section 2. These Officers shall constitute the Executive Board.
- Section 3. The Executive Board shall carry out all authorized business of the Federation.

Section 4. Vacancies in office shall be filled by appointment of the President, with approval of the Executive Board.

### **Part C. Convention of Delegates**

**Section 1. The Convention of Delegates is an assembly of individuals representing each Member Societies who meet annually to approve actions that affect the overall operation of the Federation as further may be specified in these bylaws.**

**Section 2. Each Member Society shall be represented at the Annual Meeting (Convention of Delegates) by no more than two (2) individuals who serve as delegates and are the official representatives of their home society. One delegate will also serve as a director and represent their Society as a member of the Assembly of Directors.**

**Section 3. Individual delegates are to be selected in any manner the Member Society may decide.**

**Section 4. Each delegate has one vote.**

### **Part D. Assembly of Directors**

**Section 1. The Assembly of Directors shall consist of the Officers of the Federation, who shall act as Officers of the Assembly, and one (1) Director from each Member Society, to be selected in any manner the Member Society may decide.**

**Section 2 The term of office of the Society Directors shall be for one (1) year.**

**Section 3. Each member of the Assembly of Directors shall have only one (1) vote, even though he/she may be representing more than one (1) society.**

**Section 4. Duties of the Assembly of Directors are specified in other sections throughout these bylaws.**

**Section 5. One third (1/3) of the Assembly of Directors meetings is needed to constitute a quorum for conducting assigned business.**

**Section 6. No proxy votes will be accepted.**

### **Part E. Election of Officers**

Section 1. Within sixty (60) days after the close of the Annual Meeting, the President, with the approval of the Executive Board, shall appoint, from the qualified members in good standing of any Member Society in the Federation, five (5) persons with at least one (1) from each of the Northwestern states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah and Washington who shall constitute the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall act to nominate for each elective office of the Federation for the ensuing year, with the exception of the Office of President, one (1) or more qualified Federation Society members in good standing who have expressed their willingness to accept the responsibilities of the office. For the Office of President, the Nominating Committee shall nominate only one candidate, and it shall be customary to nominate the current 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for the Office of President.

Section 3. Such nominations with a list of qualifications of each candidate, shall be mailed to each Federation Member Society at least ninety (90) days prior to the Annual Meeting; copies shall also be available at the Annual Meeting where the Nominating Committee shall make its report. Other nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting. The election of officers shall be by majority vote at the meeting.

Section 4. Elections shall be by ballot except in the case of single nominee, when this rule shall automatically be suspended and the nominee shall be declared elected by the Presiding Officer. The term of office shall be for one (1) year beginning January 1st, or as soon thereafter as new Officers are elected and installed.

Section 5 No person may serve more than one (1) term in sequence as President of the NFMS and it shall be customary, but not mandatory, to promote the current 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President to the Office of President.

- Section 6. No two members of the same family can serve on the Executive Board during any term.
- Section 7. Fulfillment of the duties of the Nomination Committee shall be the responsibility of the Nominating Committee Chairman.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Meetings**

#### **Part A. The Convention of Delegates (Annual Meeting)**

- Section 1.** The Executive Board and Convention of Delegates constitute the voting body of the Federation.
- Section 2.** A meeting of the Executive Board and Convention of Delegates shall be convened at a time chosen by the host society whose bid for the Annual Meeting and Show has been accepted by a majority vote of the Assembly of Directors. (The date of the Annual Meeting and Show shall have no effect on the fiscal or the operations year of the Federation.)
- Section 3.** All business of the Federation shall be transacted at the Annual Meeting by the Executive Board and Convention of Delegates, except such business as may be specifically assigned to the Assembly of Directors or the Executive Board.
- Section 3.** Before being seated at any Convention of Delegates, all Delegates shall be required to have on file with the Credentials Committee, authorizations being signed by the President and Secretary of the Society they represent.
- Section 4** Delegates present at any Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum for conducting business and making decisions.
- Section 5.** No Delegate may represent more than one Member Society.
- Section 6.** No Proxy votes will be accepted from delegates.
- Section 7.** Standing Committee Chairpersons may attend and present their committee reports to the Executive Board and delegates.
- Section 8.** Appointees to special committees may participate in business discussions but not vote.
- Section 9** Other individuals who are members of the Federation in good standing may attend to observe.

#### **Part B. Special Meeting**

- Section 1.** After the Annual Meeting the newly elected President may convene a meeting of the Assembly of Directors to transact any business assigned to them by the delegates at the Convention of Delegates.
- Section 2.** The President, or any seven (7) Member Societies may call a Special Meeting of the Assembly of Directors for an emergency.
- Section 3.** One third (1/3) of the membership of the Assembly of Directors shall constitute a quorum when the Special Meeting is assembled.
- Section 4** Special Meetings may be called by the President by mail, for the purpose of transacting any business within the authority of the Assembly of Directors.
- Section 5.** A majority of the membership of the Assembly of Directors shall constitute a quorum when making decisions when meeting by mail.

#### **Part C. Mid-Year Meeting**

- Section 1.** Mid-Year meetings are for the benefit of the Executive Board and are open to any Federation member.
- Section 2.** Directors and delegates may attend to present items or issues their home society wants to bring before the Executive Board for discussion.
- Section 2.** Standing Committees chairpersons are invited to attend to present updates on committee activities.

**Section 3. It is an opportunity for open discussions of business related items that may warrant inclusion in the agenda for the next annual meeting.**

**Section 4. There is no voting on business decisions at the mid-year meeting.**

#### **Part D. Organizational Meeting**

**Section 1. A meeting of the new Executive Board and invited individuals for the purpose of setting schedules, priorities, and organizing the new Executive Board assignments for the term in their position.**

**Section 2. To be held as soon as possible after the election of new members to the Executive Board at a place designated by the newly elected President.**

**Section 3. May include resolution of any old unfinished business including any known AFMS considerations.**

#### **Part E. Rules of Order**

Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, unless otherwise provided for in these Bylaws shall govern all meetings of this Federation and its Assembly of Directors

#### **Part F. Parliamentarian**

The Parliamentarian shall not be a Delegate or Director of any Member Society.

#### **Part G. Electronic Meetings**

All meetings specified by this Bylaw Article VIII, Parts A, B, C & D shall be conducted with Officers, appropriately credentialed Directors and Delegates present in person if possible. However, in case of Emergency declared by Governmental authorities, such as a Public Health Crisis, Natural Disaster, Civil Unrest, or other Disaster, the Executive Board is authorized to conduct such meetings by electronic means. The provisions of Robert's Rules of Order, 12th (or later) Revision, Appendix "SAMPLE RULES FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS" pp.635-649 shall apply with special regard to conduct of the meeting, and voting by show of hands or secret ballot as appropriate. The specific Internet protocol and program used to hold such a meeting shall be left to the discretion of the Executive Board.

Furthermore, informal meetings such as those of Committees, Executive Board, or other working bodies of the NFMS may also be similarly held by electronic means at any time when requested by the Chairperson. ~~DELETE (Part G added from 9/11/21 Annual Meeting)~~

### **ARTICLE IX**

#### **Duties of Officers**

Section 1. The Officers shall perform the duties outlined for them in Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, and those detailed for them in the Operating Procedures which are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of this Federation.

Section 2. Duties of the Federation Director, a member of the Society he represents, are detailed in the Operating Procedures.

Section 3. The EXECUTIVE BOARD, as defined in these Bylaws, Article VII, Part B, Section 2 shall carry out all authorized business of the Federation. Shall within one (1) month after election, approve a Federation Budget for miscellaneous expenses submitted by the Budget Committee for the year just beginning.

Section 4. ALL FEDERATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS shall be allowed a transportation allotment in an amount not greater than the then current round trip economy air fare to the Convention, Mid-Year Meetings, and ~~(DELETE) the fall~~ Organizational Meeting by the most direct route, or if direct air service is not available, then by current I.R.S. mileage, by the most direct usually traveled route. This includes transportation home from the convention for outgoing and the newly elected officers.

## ARTICLE X

### Committees

#### Section 1. Qualifications

- (a) No person shall be appointed Chairman of more than one (1) Committee.
- (b) No member of the Executive Board shall be appointed Chairman of a Committee except that the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, upon election to that office, automatically becomes Chairman of the Budget Committee, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, upon election to the office becomes the Chairman of the Custodian Committee.
- (c) If possible, all appointments must be made within sixty (60) days and notification be given the Member societies within ninety (90) days following the Annual Meeting.
- (d) Notification of the appointments shall be sent to the Federation Director and at least one (1) other Society Officer in each member Society by way of the NFMS Newsletter.
- (e) All Committee Chairmen are to work with the President and submit their reports, with recommendations, if any, at the Annual Meeting.

#### Section 2. Standing Committees

- (a) Standing Committees shall be: Budget, Bulletin Aids, ~~(DELETE)~~ Circulation, Credentials, Custodian, Directory, Education, Endowment Fund, Historian, Juniors, Long Range Planning, Newsletter, Nominating, Northwest Rockhound Retreat, Operations Review, Public Land Advisory, Past President Council, Public Relations, Resolutions, Rules & Awards, Safety, Scholarship, Show Coordination, Slide and Video Library, Stamps, Supplies, Ways and Means, Web-Site and Website Contest
- (b) Each Standing Committee Chairman shall ~~DELETE AND MOVE TO OPS~~ maintain and keep an Operations Manual up to date. DELETE, the original Manual to be furnished by the Federation. They shall deliver to their successors all material pertaining to their Committees work within ten (10) days after their termination of their appointments. ~~DELETE [NOTE: There is no longer such a manual]~~
- (c) Composition of Standing Committees:
  - BUDGET: The current 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall be the Chairman of the Budget Committee.
  - CUSTODIAN: The current 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall be the Chairman of the Custodian Committee.
  - RULES AND AWARDS: Shall be composed of three (3) members, each serving a three (3) year term with one new member being appointed each year by the President of the NFMS, to replace the retiring member having served three years. The oldest member, in terms of service shall be the Chairman of the Committee. The Second Year member shall be the Judging Director. The incoming member shall be the Exhibits Registrar (Exhibits Registration Chairman). The activities of the Rules and Awards Committee shall be governed by the AFMS Uniform Rules, and the NFMS Operating Procedures for the Rules and Awards Committee.
  - ALL OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES: Shall be constituted as the President deems expedient and their appointment shall be for a one (1) year term which shall coincide with the term of the Federation President, or until their respective successors are appointed and qualify.
- (d) Standing Committees shall perform the duties specified for them in the Operating Procedures

### Section 3. Special Committees

- (a) Special Committees will be appointed annually, as desired, for a one year term, by the NFMS President to complete a specific task (Further term(s) must be reappointed by succeeding presidents). Operating Procedures that pertain to all committees and the NFMS Operations Manual will define the conduct of any and all Special Committee assignments.

### Section 4. NFMS Representatives on AFMS Committees

- (a) The NFMS President will appoint NFMS regional representatives to serve on AFMS Committees where (as) requested by the AFMS President.
- (b) Duties will be defined by AFMS **Bylaws**, OP's or other AFMS document.

## ARTICLE XI

### OPERATING PROCEDURES

#### Part A Operating Procedures

The details of operating not included in the Articles of Incorporation or the **Bylaws** of the Federation that are of a continuing nature, to be mandatory on succeeding administration until amended, suspended or rescinded, shall be authorized by Operating Procedures, upon approval of the Assembly of Directors & Delegates, as outlined in our Operating Procedure System.

#### Part B Operating Procedure System

- Section 1. Suggested Operating Procedures may be submitted by any member in good standing, to the President, the Secretary, or directly at any Annual meeting.
- Section 2. Operating Procedures may be adopted or suspended at the Annual Meeting without prior notice, by a majority vote of those present and voting or they may be amended or rescinded, also without prior notice by a two thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting. After adoption Operating Procedures become mandatory until amended, suspended or rescinded at an Annual Meeting.
- Section 3. No Operation procedure is in order that violates this Federation's Articles of Incorporation or its **Bylaws**.

## ARTICLE XII

### Official Publication

"The Northwest Newsletter", a nonprofit bulletin owned and published by the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., shall be the official publication.

## ARTICLE XIII

### Cancellation Clause

On Adoption of these **Bylaws** it automatically cancels all previous **Bylaws** and Amendments thereto, of this Federation.

## ARTICLE XIV

### Amendments

- Section 1. All amendments to these Bylaws and all resolutions must be sponsored by a member Society in good standing.
- Section 2. These **Bylaws** may be amended at any Annual Meeting by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegates present, PROVIDED, that written notice has been given each of the member Societies at least three (3) months in advance.

## ARTICLE XV

## Historical Information

**Part A: The Organizing Meeting:** The Societies which are represented at the organization meeting held in Olympia, Washington, February 5, 1938 whose representative's signatures appear on the original Constitution are designated as Charter Members.

### Part B: CHARTER MEMBERS

1. Ray C. Grulke, President, Washington Agate and Mineral Society
2. E.H. Rockwell, President, Oregon Agate and Mineral Society
3. C.G. Springer, President, Deschutes Geology Club
4. Arthur K. Harris, President, Camas Mineral Society
5. Charles O. Fernquist, President, Columbian Geological Society
6. M.F. Reed, President, Gem Collectors Club
7. Floyd A. Holmquist, President, Tacoma Mineral Society

**Part C:** Original bylaws were approved by Henry C. Dake, President at the first Northwest Federation meeting

## Those We've Lost

### Chugach

Dorothy Arnold

### Bitterroot

Ralph Luther April 24

Penny Luther August 24

### Everett

Fritz Mack

### Golden Spike

Tom Burchard November 11, 2024

### Gold Hill Diggers

Anne Atchison

### Hells Canyon

Harlan Storla

### Lakeside

Jerry Senn January 28, 94 yrs old

Ralph Eichner July 7 94 yrs old

Sue Liebetau

### Marysville

Ed Molsee

Parker Wells

### Mt Hood

Hidemi Kira February 2025

### Tualatin Valley

Darlene Wozniak

### Southern Washington

Jim Bohnen August 24, 2024

### Whidby Island

Wayne Adams

Richard James

Chip Bachellor

Roger Anglum

Mark Reacher

Membership Information Follows

CLUB - State & Name	Sent	Received	Adults	Juniors
NFMS Club-at-Large		3/2/2025	25	
NWFM Club-at-Large				
<b>Total</b>		<b>At Large</b>	25	0
<b>ALASKA</b>		2025		
<b>CHUGACH GEM &amp; MINERAL SOCIETY</b>		3/4/2025	97	
<b>Total</b>		<b>Alaska</b>	97	0
<b>IDAHO</b>		2025		
Eureka Rock & Gem Club		4/3/2025	11	2
Gold Hill Diggers Rock Club		1/18/2025	33	5
Hells Canyon Gem Club		1/7/2025	100	15
Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society		1/21/2025	129	9
Idaho Gem Club		1/7/2025	142	9
Magic Valley Gem Club		1/14/2025	35	0
North Idaho Mineral Club		1/14/2025	75	6
Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society		3/2/2025	117	16
Southeast Idaho Gem & Mineral Society		3/2/2025	52	6
Thursday Night Pastry Tasters & Flint Knappers		2/21/2025	10	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>Idaho</b>	704	71
<b>MONTANA</b>		2025		
Billings Gem & Mineral Club		12/12/2024	281	51
Bitterroot Gem & Mineral Society		1/3/2025	41	6
Bozeman Gem & Mineral Society		12/29/2024	163	13
Butte Mineral & Gem Club		12/29/2025	106	5
Central Montana Prospectors				
Hellgate Mineral Society		12/29/2025	208	46
Miles City Montana Gem & Mineral		1/30/2025	57	1
Northwest Montana Rock Chucks		1/7/2025	113	40
<b>Total</b>		<b>Montana</b>	969	162
<b>OREGON</b>		2025		
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Society		1/14/2025	189	46
Columbia Gorge Rock Hounds		1/14/2025	22	1
Columbia-Willamette Faceters' Guild		2/21/2025	115	0
Far West Lapidary & Gem Society		2/15/2025	64	0
Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society		12/12/2025	50	12
Lower Umpqua Gem & Lapidary Society		11/25/2025	28	0

Mt. Hood Rock Club		2/7/2025	408	90
Oregon Agate & Mineral Society		1/18/2025	71	5
Prineville Rockhound Pow-Wow Assn		3/7/2025	117	
Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club		1/19/2025	147	30
Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society		1/3/2025	105	27
Trails End Gem & Mineral Club		1/14/2025	14	0
Tualatin Valley Gem Club		1/14/2025	107	42
Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club		2/21/2025	153	27
Willamette Agate & Mineral Society		12/29/2025	344	45
<b>Total</b>		<b>Oregon</b>	1934	325
<b>UTAH</b>		2025		
Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society		2/7/2025	162	40
Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society		1/7/2025	325	126
<b>Total</b>		<b>Utah</b>	487	166
<b>WASHINGTON</b>		2025		
<del>Cascade Mineralogical Society</del>	Dropped			
Clallam County Gem & Mineral Association		1/3/2025	128	4
Darrington Rock & Gem Club	Inactive			
East Kingco Rock Club		1/7/2025	63	24
Ellensburg Rock Wolves		1/27/2025	19	0
Everett Rock & Gem Club		1/14/2025	119	7
Grays Harbor Rock Club		11/18/2025	57	5
Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club		1/3/2025	252	45
Maplewood Rock & Gem Club		3/20/2025	117	29
Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society		2/15/2025	129	22
Marysville Rock & Gem Club		3/3/2025	274	61
Mount Baker Rock & Gem Club		1/27/2025	106	0
North Puget Sound Faceting Guild	Dropped			
Panorama Gem & Mineral Club		1/14/2025	37	0
Skagit Rock & Gem Club		1/7/2025	29	1
Southern Washington Mineralogical Society		1/14/2025	74	11
Wasington Agate & Mineral Society		11/27/2025	50	6
West Seattle Rock Club		3/10/2025	71	32
Whidbey Island Gem Club		1/3/2025	105	1
Yakima Rock & Mineral Club		2/14/2025	156	37
<b>Total</b>		<b>Washington</b>	1786	285
			6,002	1,009
		Total Members	7,011	